



"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING
GROUP 1761"

(NE)
14/B
12-20-01
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DOCKET NO.: 192697US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

HIROTOSHI ISHIDA ET AL

SERIAL NO. : 09/581,180

FILED: JULY 14, 2000

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: EXAMINER: WONG

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: GROUP ART UNIT: 1761

FOR: GRANULAR SWEETENER

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RECEIVED
DEC 19 2001
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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated October 19, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 4, 6, and 8, without prejudice toward the further prosecution of these claims in a continuation and/or divisional application.

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A granulated sweetener comprising Aspartame and Acesulfame-K as active ingredients, wherein the amount of the Acesulfame-K is 5 to 90% by weight based on the total amount of both the components and wherein the maximum particle size of the